

## **Evaluation Of Potential False Negative Corrosive Chemicals in Proposed *In Vitro* Dermal Irritation Assays**

DG Allen<sup>1</sup>, J Truax<sup>1</sup>, A Rispin<sup>2</sup>, A Jacobs<sup>3</sup>, K Hamernik<sup>2</sup>, RR Tice<sup>4</sup>, WS Stokes<sup>4</sup>. <sup>1</sup>ILS, Inc., Contractor Supporting NICEATM, RTP, NC, USA; <sup>2</sup>U.S. EPA, Washington, D.C., USA; <sup>3</sup>U.S. FDA, Silver Spring, MD, USA; <sup>4</sup>NICEATM, NIEHS/NIH/DHHS, RTP, NC, USA

ICCVAM has designed a multi-phased study intended to assess the performance for corrosive chemicals of two new *in vitro* skin model dermal irritation assays, EpiDerm™ and EPISKIN™. A validation study of these assays was recently completed by ECVAM. Phase 1 of the ICCVAM study will evaluate whether an MTT correction step in the *in vitro* skin model corrosivity assays reduces false negative results for chemicals known to be corrosive *in vivo* and if the *in vitro* skin model dermal irritation protocols can also be used to distinguish dermal corrosives from irritants. Contingent on the results of Phase 1, Phase 2 would provide information for possible modifications to the *in vitro* skin model dermal irritation protocols that would allow for corrosives and false negative corrosives to be identified. This study plan, developed by NICEATM and ICCVAM, with input from the ECVAM Validation Study Management Team, will generate information critical for consideration of these *in vitro* methods by regulatory authorities. Supported by NIEHS contract N01-ES-35504.

NOTE: The views expressed above do not necessarily represent the official positions of any federal agency.